



July 1, 2019

VIA E-MAIL

Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 75051
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RE: FOIA Request No. DOC-OIG-2019-001506

Dear Ms. Best:

This letter is regarding your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, tracking number DOC-OIG-2019-001506, received by the Department of Commerce, Office of Inspector General (OIG) on June 10, 2019, in which you seek “a copy of the list or printout or database listing of Inspector General investigations closed/reports completed during calendar year 2017” (*sic*). Your request was interpreted to seek a database printout of investigations performed by the Department of Commerce OIG that were closed during calendar year 2017.

A search of records maintained by the OIG has located two (2) pages that are responsive to your request. We have reviewed these pages under the terms of FOIA and have determined that all of the pages must be withheld in part under FOIA exemption (b)(6), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which protects information in personnel, medical, or similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, as well as FOIA exemption (b)(7)(C), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C), which protects law enforcement information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Copies of the pages are enclosed, with the redactions noted.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification to all OIG requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You have the right to appeal this determination. Any appeal must be received within ninety (90) calendar days of the date of this response letter. Address your appeal to the following office:

Counsel to the Inspector General
U.S. Department of Commerce
Office of Inspector General, Office of Counsel
14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Room 7898C
Washington, D.C. 20230

An appeal may also be sent by e-mail to FOIA@oig.doc.gov, by facsimile (fax) to 202-501-7335, or by FOIAonline, if you have an account in FOIAonline, at <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/request>.

The appeal should include a copy of the original request and this letter. In addition, the appeal should include a statement of the reasons why you believe that the determination was in error. The appeal letter, the envelope, the e-mail subject line, and the fax cover sheet should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." The e-mail, fax machine, FOIAonline, and Office of Counsel mailbox are monitored only on working days during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday). FOIA appeals posted to the e-mail box, fax machine, FOIAonline, or the Office of Counsel mailbox after normal business hours will be deemed received on the next normal business day. If the 90th calendar day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal public holiday, an appeal received by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, the next business day will be deemed timely. An appeal received after the 90-day limit will not be considered.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact the analyst who processed your request, Laura Main, by telephone at (202) 482-5992 or by email at foia@oig.doc.gov. You may also contact me, the OIG FOIA Public Liaison at:

Jennifer Piel
U.S. Department of Commerce
Office of Inspector General, Office of Counsel
14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Room 7898C
Washington, D.C. 20230
Telephone at (202) 482-5992; email at foia@oig.doc.gov

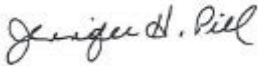
In addition, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

E-mail at ogis@nara.gov;

Telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at 1 (877) 684-6448; facsimile at (202) 741-5769

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jennifer D. Piel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jennifer" being more prominent than the last name "Piel".

Jennifer Piel
FOIA Officer

Enclosures

[Search](#) » [Advanced Search \(Complaint Intake\)](#) » [Results](#)

Search Results

DOC OIG Case Management System - CMS 1.0.47 - (OI Management)

Search Summary

Complaint Intake Records : 89

Total Rows : 89

Search Name :

Search Title :

Criteria

ALL criteria below must be true (AND).

| Data Object | Data Element | Operator | Value |
|-------------|--------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Case | Disposition | EQUAL TO | I - Investigative Case |
| Case | Date Closed | BETWEEN | 01/01/2017 and 12/13/2018 |

Organizational Unit Filters

There is no Organizational Unit filtering in this search.

Assignment Filters

There is no Assignment filtering in this search.

Page 1 of 1 | Display 89 per page | [Refresh](#) | [Print](#) | Displaying 1 - 89 of 89

| Case ID | Case Title | Disposition | Date Closed |
|-----------|--|------------------------|-------------|
| 12-0497-I | [REDACTED] | I - Investigative Case | 03/22/2017 |
| 12-1077-I | [REDACTED] USFCS) | I - Investigative Case | 04/13/2017 |
| 13-0301-I | Mississippi Dept of Marine Resources Misuses Funds (NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 07/21/2017 |
| 13-0620-I | [REDACTED] (Cen) | I - Investigative Case | 01/13/2017 |
| 13-0703-I | Qui-Tam US ex.rel. v. Ameri-Source Holdings, et.al. (ITA) | I - Investigative Case | 03/10/2017 |
| 13-0777-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 02/23/2018 |
| 13-0879-I | SAG Corporation et al (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 06/21/2018 |
| 13-0885-I | Precision Fasteners, LLC; Mid Continent Nail Corporation (ITA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/13/2017 |
| 13-1138-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/NGS) | I - Investigative Case | 02/02/2017 |
| 14-0153-I | T&A and Travel Fraud; Misuse of Government Computer (OS) | I - Investigative Case | 02/08/2017 |
| 14-0209-I | [REDACTED]/OS) | I - Investigative Case | 03/14/2018 |
| 14-0278-I | VERA/VSIP Matter (NOAA/OAR/ESRL) | I - Investigative Case | 04/28/2017 |
| 14-0361-I | [REDACTED] Educational Advancement Alliance (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 03/02/2017 |
| 14-0415-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/NWFSC) | I - Investigative Case | 06/27/2017 |
| 14-0505-I | NOAA Ship Rainier Unlawful Discharge and Possible Retaliation | I - Investigative Case | 10/17/2017 |
| 14-0524-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/OAR) | I - Investigative Case | 03/16/2017 |
| 14-0790-I | CHEC T&A Fraud (Census) | I - Investigative Case | 07/30/2018 |
| 14-0860-I | [REDACTED] (EDA) | I - Investigative Case | 10/16/2017 |
| 14-0877-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/17/2017 |
| 14-0984-I | Prescient Weather, Ltd. (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 08/22/2018 |
| 14-0990-I | Patent Examiners T&A Analytics (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 03/02/2017 |
| 15-0029-I | En Pointe Gov, Inc. | I - Investigative Case | 02/14/2017 |
| 15-0076-I | [REDACTED] (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 03/29/2017 |
| 15-0080-I | I.M. Solutions- Contractor (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 10/02/2017 |
| 15-0194-I | [REDACTED] (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 04/13/2017 |
| 15-0457-I | [REDACTED] (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 02/23/2018 |
| 15-0464-I | [REDACTED] (NIST) | I - Investigative Case | 03/09/2018 |
| 15-0732-I | [REDACTED] (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 02/22/2017 |
| 15-0789-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 01/13/2017 |
| 15-0937-I | Potential Fly America Act Violation (OS) | I - Investigative Case | 11/06/2017 |
| 15-1118-I | Foreign National Researchers (NIST) | I - Investigative Case | 07/21/2017 |
| 15-1389-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 07/10/2017 |
| 15-1401-I | Esri (Census) | I - Investigative Case | 04/09/2018 |
| 15-1508-I | [REDACTED] (NOAA/DUS) | I - Investigative Case | 03/31/2017 |

ALL WITHHOLDINGS (B)(6) & (B)(7)(C)

| Case ID | Case Title | Disposition | Date Closed |
|-----------|--|------------------------|-------------|
| 15-1561-I | (NIST) | I - Investigative Case | 05/18/2018 |
| 15-1591-I | Japanese Auto Parts Manufacturers Anti-Trust Case | I - Investigative Case | 10/15/2018 |
| 15-1606-I | (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 12/11/2017 |
| 15-1775-I | (NOAA/OMAO) | I - Investigative Case | 10/16/2017 |
| 16-0003-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 11/30/2018 |
| 16-0031-I | PEDP Loans (EDA) | I - Investigative Case | 02/02/2017 |
| 16-0036-I | (NOAA/OAR) | I - Investigative Case | 01/18/2018 |
| 16-0063-I | (Census) | I - Investigative Case | 03/31/2017 |
| 16-0110-I | (Technical Adventures, LLC; NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 03/27/2017 |
| 16-0172-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 01/25/2017 |
| 16-0361-I | (OS/OSBM) | I - Investigative Case | 07/20/2017 |
| 16-0454-I | SES Hiring Decisions (EDA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/17/2017 |
| 16-0463-I | (Census) | I - Investigative Case | 01/13/2017 |
| 16-0483-I | (NOAA/ENFA Corporation) | I - Investigative Case | 03/17/2017 |
| 16-0489-I | (EDA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/04/2017 |
| 16-0526-I | Hardee County Broadband Grant (NTIA) | I - Investigative Case | 04/02/2018 |
| 16-0584-I | Foreign National Researcher Program / ITMD Access (NIST) | I - Investigative Case | 02/23/2018 |
| 16-0693-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 03/31/2017 |
| 16-0765-I | (OS/OHRM) | I - Investigative Case | 02/02/2017 |
| 16-0849-I | Ford Dealer Price-Fixing (DOJ/Antitrust) | I - Investigative Case | 04/06/2017 |
| 16-0886-I | (NOAA/NWS) | I - Investigative Case | 04/13/2017 |
| 16-0893-I | Dioxide Materials, Inc. (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 03/27/2017 |
| 16-0921-I | (NOAA/OAR) | I - Investigative Case | 05/10/2018 |
| 16-0922-I | Farhtex Enterprises, Inc. (ITA) | I - Investigative Case | 04/20/2017 |
| 16-0990-I | (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 05/03/2017 |
| 16-0991-I | (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 05/04/2017 |
| 16-1036-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 04/23/2018 |
| 16-1045-I | Office of Executive Support (OES) | I - Investigative Case | 10/22/2018 |
| 16-1091-I | mas (NOAA/NESDIS) | I - Investigative Case | 06/21/2018 |
| 16-1107-I | Burger Beef and Brew LLC (EDA) | I - Investigative Case | 04/02/2018 |
| 16-1122-I | (Census) | I - Investigative Case | 01/04/2017 |
| 16-1161-I | (NIST) | I - Investigative Case | 04/27/2017 |
| 16-1260-I | (NOAA/OMAO) | I - Investigative Case | 04/12/2018 |
| 16-1265-I | Lorain Development Corporation (EDA) | I - Investigative Case | 03/27/2017 |
| 16-1364-I | (NOAA/OLE) | I - Investigative Case | 04/12/2017 |
| 16-1421-I | Derelict Vessels Grant (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 05/22/2017 |
| 16-1455-I | (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 04/10/2017 |
| 16-1551-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 07/20/2018 |
| 16-1559-I | Medtronic PLC (ITA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/18/2018 |
| 17-0005-I | Missing DEC Funds (ITA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/03/2018 |
| 17-0013-I | (NOAA/OAR) | I - Investigative Case | 10/10/2017 |
| 17-0025-I | (NOAA/NMFS) | I - Investigative Case | 07/30/2018 |
| 17-0459-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 06/20/2018 |
| 17-0513-I | (NTIA/FirstNet) | I - Investigative Case | 03/01/2018 |
| 17-0592-I | (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 01/18/2018 |
| 17-0802-I | (NOAA/NMFS/SERO) | I - Investigative Case | 05/08/2018 |
| 17-0902-I | (NOAA/OAR/ESRL) | I - Investigative Case | 10/31/2018 |
| 17-0960-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 04/09/2018 |
| 17-1250-I | (Census); (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 08/08/2018 |
| 17-1293-I | (MBDA) | I - Investigative Case | 06/27/2018 |
| 17-1297-I | SelectUSA Contract (ITA) | I - Investigative Case | 07/06/2018 |
| 17-1300-I | (USPTO) | I - Investigative Case | 08/16/2018 |
| 17-1401-I | (NOAA) | I - Investigative Case | 06/20/2018 |
| 17-1477-I | (OS) | I - Investigative Case | 06/12/2018 |
| 18-0256-I | (OS) | I - Investigative Case | 11/30/2017 |